

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-18 are pending in the above-identified application.

The drawings were objected to for not having descriptive text labels. The drawings have been appropriately amended.

The Abstract was objected to for improper language. The Abstract has been appropriately amended.

Claims 15-18 were objected to for being in improper dependent form. These claims have been appropriately amended.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 1-2 and 4-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Korus et al. and Shinomiya. Claim 1 is amended to include,

...the mobile network further includes a backup router device, and
If the backup router device determines the connection to the backbone network is lost between the mobile router device and the first access router, the backup router device transmits another binding update message that includes the virtual address corresponding to the mobile router device and another care of address corresponding to the backup router device...

Basis for these amendments may be found in the specification at page 20, line 25 to page 21, line 5 and Figs. 1-3.

The mobile network 1 in Applicants' exemplary embodiment includes a mobile router device 2 and a backup router device 3. The mobile network may be connected to backbone network 8 via home gateway router 7 (Fig. 1). Mobile network 1 may move to different locations. For example, mobile network 1 may move to the location shown at Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, the mobile router 2 of mobile network 1 connects to backbone network 8 via access router 9 (first access router). When the mobile network 1 moves to the different location at Fig. 2, the mobile network may transmit "...a binding update message which makes the virtual address

corresponding to the care of address when the mobile router device works as the master router," as recited in claim 1.

The mobile network 1 may, however, move to the location shown at Fig. 3. Thus, the connection to backbone network 8 may be lost between mobile router 2 and access router 9. The backup router 3 (of mobile network 1) may then connect to backbone network 8 via access router 10 (second access router). The backup router device may determine "...the connection to the backbone network is lost between the mobile router device and the first access router..." (Page 20, line 25 to page 21, line 5). The backup router device 3 may then transmit another binding update message to home network 20 that includes (1) the home address MR2_HoA of mobile router device 2 ("the virtual address corresponding to the mobile router device") and (2) the care of address MR3_CoA of backup router device 3 ("another care of address corresponding to the backup router device"). That is, backup router device 3 "...transmits another binding update message that includes the virtual address corresponding to the mobile router device and another care of address corresponding to the backup router device."

Korus et al. includes a mobile network 1 having a mobile router 106. (Fig. 1). The mobile router 106 in Korus et al. monitors whether it has moved to a foreign network. (Col. 5, lines 51-65). If the mobile router 106 moves to a foreign network, it receives a care of address. (Col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 8). The mobile node is addressable by its care of address (and indirectly, by its home address) after moving to a new link. The home agent 150 registers the current care of address of mobile nodes. Responsive to the movement of a mobile node, home agent 150 intercepts packets destined to the mobile node's home address, encapsulates them, and tunnels them to the mobile node's registered care of address. (Col. 4, lines 55-60). Korus et al. does not disclose that the mobile network 1 "...includes a backup router device," as recited in claim 1. Further, Korus et al. does not disclose a backup router that "...determines the connection to the backbone network is lost," as recited in claim 1.

After the mobile router 106 in Korus et al. receives its care of address, the mobile router 106 may transmit a binding update message (which associates the care of address with the mobile subnet prefix) to corresponding nodes (CNs) so that the CNs may send message to the mobile router 106 via the care of address rather than the home address. Korus et al. does not, however, transmit another binding message update that includes the mobile node's home address and another care of address of the backup router. Thus, the binding message update

in Korus et al. do not include "...the virtual address corresponding to the mobile router device and another care of address corresponding to the backup router device," as recited in claim 1.

Shinomoya discloses determining whether a router device works as a backup router that can connect a network to another network. (Paragraphs [0005] and [0011]). Shinomoya does not disclose a mobile network of any kind. Therefore, Shinomoya does not disclose any care of addresses or any binding messages being sent that include addresses. Thus, Shinomoya does not, disclose "...the backup router device transmits another binding update message that includes the virtual address corresponding to the mobile router device and another care of address corresponding to the backup router device," as recited in claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is allowable over the art of record.

Claim 14, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 14 is also allowable over the art of record for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Claims 2, 4-13 and 15-18 which include all of the features of their respective base claims, are submitted for allowance for the reasons described above with respect to their base claims.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Korus et al., Shinomoya and Simpson. Claim 3 is allowable, however, because it depends from allowable claim 1.

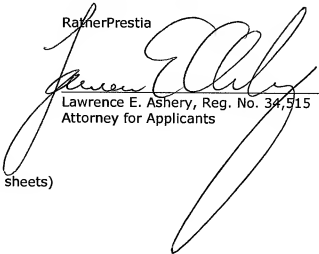
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this Application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Rather Prestia



Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,915
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/DFD/dmw

Attachments: Figures 1, 2, 3, 17-19 (6 sheets)
Abstract

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P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

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